United Nations S/2003/897

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 September 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 16 September 2003 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my letter of 23 April 2003 (S/2003/464).

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached third report from the Netherlands submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

03-52457 (E) 021003

Annex

Letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

On the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith to you the third report of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Counter-Terrorism Committee submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (see enclosure).

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the great appreciation of the Netherlands Government for the close cooperation with the Committee and to reaffirm our commitment to providing the Committee with any additional information that the Committee deems necessary or may request.

(*Signed*) Dirk Jan **van den Berg**
Ambassador

Enclosure

Third report on the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1373

Question 1.2

The Crimes of Terrorism Bill is currently before the Dutch Parliament. It will be discussed at a meeting on 8 September with representatives of the House of Representatives of the States General. A full session of the House of Representatives will then debate the Bill, probably in October of this year. Thereafter the Bill will still need to be approved by the Senate. It is expected to come into force in mid-2004.

Question 1.3

Section 140a of the Crimes of Terrorism Bill would make it an offence to be a member of a terrorist organisation. In addition, the Dutch government proposed additional counter-terrorism measures on 24 June. One of these measures is the banning of organisations included on international lists of terrorist organisations, such as the EU list attached to EU regulation 2580/2001. The proposals will be discussed with the Dutch Parliament on 30 September.

Question 1.4

The drafts of the legislation implementing the nine remaining UN conventions are expected to be finalised this year, after which they can be presented to the Advisory Council and then brought before Parliament. Dutch lawyers specialised in legislation are helping to expedite this process. Depending on the rate of progress, the implementing legislation for all the remaining UN conventions may enter into force in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba at the beginning of 2004.

Question 1.5

Besides the CTC, the Netherlands reports to the UN Sanctions Committee on the implementation of resolutions 1267 and 1390 concerning sanctions against persons and organisations associated with the Taliban and/or Al-Qaida. It also reports to the OECD's Financial Action Task Force on the effectiveness of the measures built into its financial system to counteract terrorist financing. The Netherlands will make the reports in question available to the CTC, as well as any future reports that may be relevant to its work.

Question 2.1

The Netherlands appreciates the important role performed by the CTC as a clearing house for technical assistance to UN member states in implementing anti-terrorism legislation and UN anti-terrorism conventions. The Netherlands remains ready to assist the CTC in this task and will consider requests by the CTC for technical assistance to third countries on a case-by-case basis.

Question 2.2

The Netherlands compliments the CTC on its communication and information policies which enable UN member states to keep informed of its work, and make assistance and advice readily available.

Question 2.4

The Netherlands is currently investigating ways of providing technical counter-terrorism assistance on a bilateral basis to third countries. The Netherlands will inform the CTC of any specific programme as it becomes operational.